

HONORING RAYMOND L.  
CRAWFORD, JR.

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2022*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a great man, Mr. Raymond L. Crawford, Jr. of Denton, Texas who passed away on January 17, 2022. He lived a full life and was a respected business leader, philanthropist and beloved husband and father.

Mr. Crawford was born and raised in Lewisville, Texas where he was baptized at the First Presbyterian Church. He attended Lewisville High School and was a four-sport letterman. As President of the Senior Class of 1958, he led a class trip to Washington, D.C., where the group met with their Congressman, Frank Ikard. He furthered his education at North Texas College in Denton. As a student, he was a football player and a member and President of the Geezles fraternity, graduating in 1963 with a BA in Mathematics.

He was a life-long financial and insurance services professional, beginning his successful five-decade career with Northwestern Mutual with an on-campus interview at his alma mater. The trade association, Million Dollar Roundtable, recognized him in 2018 with a lifetime membership for having 50 consecutive years meeting the organization's ethical standards and sales requirements. In addition, he was recognized by Northwestern Mutual in 1983 as one of its top 20 salesmen in the nation. He prided himself on doing his best to build client relationships based upon trust and integrity, and advising them with the best investment products to protect and provide for those most important in their lives.

R.L.'s love for the University of North Texas manifested in his financial support and volunteer service on many UNT boards, including the UNT Board of Regents from 1989 to 1995 and as chairman and emeritus director of the UNT Foundation Board. He was also a proud member of the Mean Green Club and the UNT Alumni Association. He also actively engaged in his community, serving in leadership roles as the President of the Greater Lewisville Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of Medical City Lewisville, and President of the Lewisville Rotary Club as well as multiple non-profits. He was named Lewisville's 1983 "Citizen of the Year", an honorary lifetime board member of the Dallas United Way and a Paul Harris Fellow Rotarian.

He was devoted to Brenda, his college sweetheart, and wife of 57 years. Their marriage was blessed with two sons, R.L. "Trey" Crawford III, and F. Guy Crawford. Following in the steps of their parents, both men also graduated from the University of North Texas. R.L. Crawford, Jr. was a great personal friend and advisor to me and my wife. We extend heartfelt condolences to R.L.'s family; he will be deeply missed by his friends and family and the North Texas community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN  
"JACK" CASEY, JR.

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2022*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a man who lived selflessly and embodied the true definition of a patriot. John "Jack" Casey, of Groton, Connecticut, who passed January 4th after a lifetime of service to his community, his state, and his nation.

Jack Casey was born on September 30, 1946, to Catherine Agnes Keane McDonald and John George Casey, Jr. in Allston, Massachusetts. He attended high school in Brighton, Massachusetts, and graduated in 1964. Immediately following his graduation, Jack heeded the call to serve his country and enlisted in the United States Navy. During his time in the Navy, he completed Disbursing Clerk Class A School in Newport, Rhode Island; and soon advanced to the rank Disbursing Clerk Third Class while stationed in New London, Connecticut.

Jack chose to extend his enlistment by thirteen months, volunteering to serve his nation in Vietnam. He attended Counter Insurgency Training in Little Creek, Virginia; and served at National Security Activity in Da Nang, Vietnam RVN from July 1967 to July 1968. His time in the Navy earned him the Navy Unit Commendation, Navy Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze stars, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation, Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Unit Citation, and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Following his discharge from the Navy, Jack returned to Groton and found employment at the Navy Exchange. In November 1968, Jack began his 33-year career at Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, working as a chemical operator. Jack worked for Pfizer until his retirement in November 2001.

Soon after his retirement, he started volunteering for numerous groups. Jack epitomized the spirit of volunteerism; his tireless dedication to fellow veterans and to his community would define his life. While Jack volunteered for Meals on Wheels, he would frequently go above and beyond for the seniors on his route—buying them items from the store without accepting reimbursement. In 2001, Jack began volunteering as a Registrar for the World War II memorial, inducting more than 100,000 people into the World War II Registry. He also volunteered as a Registrar for the U.S. Navy Memorial and U.S. Army Memorial, registering over 75,000 heroes as Sea Service Personnel and over 75,000 heroes for the U.S. Army Memorial.

I had the honor to witness first-hand Jack's deep compassion for his country and fellow veterans when he joined my Veterans Advisory Board in 2007. His participation and input as a member of the Board was invaluable as he identified real life problems within the Veterans Administration that impacted our veterans. However, the most remarkable quality about Jack was that for each issue he raised, he also brought forth constructive ideas to address the problem. Veterans in eastern Connecticut and all across the country benefited from his passionate well-informed advocacy.

Jack continued to be a champion of veterans, becoming a member of the Patriot Guard Riders in 2008. During his time as a member of the Patriot Guard, his role would encompass that of a general member, a Ride Captain, and Assistant State Captain. He completed 5,000 missions from Vermont to New York. Jack also went on to serve as a board member for the Connecticut Patriot Guard from April 2008 to June 2019.

In the midst of his work with the Patriot Guard, from 2009 to 2015, Jack volunteered as Logistic Support Manager and Guardian for American Warrior. He escorted World War II veterans to the World War II Memorial, something that he found deeply gratifying.

Jack's selflessness did not go unrecognized. In 2011, he was awarded the Outstanding Citizenship Award by the National Society of the Son of the American Revolution. A year later, he was awarded the Norwich Area Council Veteran of the Year Award for his support and dedication to Norwich area Veterans organizations. And, on November 1, 2013, Jack was inducted into the 9th class of the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame—a well-deserved nomination that I enthusiastically supported.

Not one to rest, in 2015, Jack helped establish a series of veteran coffeehouses across Southeastern Connecticut. These coffeehouses offered and continue to offer veterans a network of support, resources and comradery.

Jack stayed active in the veteran community until the end, participating in the Vietnam Veterans of American, Chapter 20, and Easter Seals veterans Rally Point. Jack was a lifetime member of the VVA, VFW, DAV, and Submarine Veterans Association.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege and an honor to represent constituents as selfless and humble as John "Jack" Casey, Jr. Though the gap he leaves in the fabric of Eastern Connecticut's veterans' community is one that won't be soon filled, we can find solace in the reality that Jack's hard work has touched thousands. Jack undoubtedly left those he interacted with better and achieved his goal of leaving things better for those who come after him. I ask that my colleagues please join me in honoring Jack Casey, a man to whom we can all look as a model of leadership and service.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE, SPIRIT,  
AND LEADERSHIP OF REVEREND  
PETER C. WEISS

**HON. TROY A. CARTER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2022*

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember the life, spirit, and leadership of The Very Reverend Peter C. Weiss, S.S.J.

I knew Father Weiss during his service as a Pastor to All Saints Catholic Church in my home community of Algiers and his time as Chaplain at the New Orleans Fire Department.

He was an inspiring orator and a kind soul that steered the church through difficult times.

Peter C. Weiss was born in Brooklyn on June 26, 1951 to Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Weiss.

He was a member of the Society of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart for 43 years until he passed away last week at the age of 70.

Ordained in 1979, Father Weiss ministered primarily to African American communities across the country, including in Baltimore, Houston, Birmingham, and Washington, D.C.

However, his longest ministerial service was in New Orleans, where he made a lasting mark on the community.

Along with ministering to elderly, sick and homebound parishioners, Rev. Peter Weiss was a reserve fireman, a Chaplain to the local branch of the FBI, and taught at St. Augustine High School for 30 years.

At the school he played indispensable roles as a Theology Teacher, Director of Color Guard, and Chief Religious Officer.

In everything he did for St. Augustine, All Saints Catholic Church and the community, he kept Christ at the forefront.

I'm sending prayers to Father Weiss' family, friends, students, colleagues, and church community.

He will be so missed.

I take comfort that now, he is at peace with his Savior in heaven.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF MIKE JILOTY

#### HON. MICHAEL WALTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2022*

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, on December 25th Volusia County lost a great businessman and valued community leader, Mike Jiloty. Through Mike's hard work and personal approach to business, he received hundreds of industry awards. Serving as the President of United Way of Volusia and Flagler, Mike fought for the health, education, and stability of every person in his community. He dedicated his time to the FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools to better prepare students for their careers.

As a graduate of the Leadership Florida Class XIV, Mike used his skills as a leader to serve his community and was honored by several organizations, including the Volusia Association of School Administrators, the Daytona Beach Community College Foundation, and the Conklin Center for the Blind Lodging.

Madam Speaker, Mike Jiloty was a true example of a servant leader. He sought to inspire others, to make his community a better place, and he is missed dearly. It is my honor to recognize him today.

#### NANSEN SKI CLUB

#### HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2022*

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the first competitive ski jumping event at the Nansen Jump Park in nearly 40 years that will take place January 23, 2022.

The Nansen Ski Jump was constructed in 1936-38 by the city of Berlin and the National

Youth Administration with help from with the Nansen Ski Club.

For almost fifty years the Nansen Ski Jump was the premier ski jump in the country, hosting Olympic trials and National Championships. In 1988, the jump was closed and the site of the jump was overgrown and rundown.

Winter sports are more than just a hobby in New Hampshire and throughout the United States; they are a way of life. I was proud to support Nansen Ski club's efforts to restore and renovate the Nansen Ski Jump. The restoration of the Nansen Ski Jump site, and the return of ski jumping to New Hampshire's North Country, will create an economic and communal boost to the region.

On August 27, 2021 I was excited to visit the Nansen Ski Jump in Milan to see the progress on renovations. I am proud of the North Country community for coming together to make the project a reality.

On behalf of my constituents across New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank them for all they do to ensure New Hampshire remains such a wonderful place to live, play, and raise a family.

#### RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN JOHN "JACK" A. WALTER, A VIETNAM WAR HERO, ACTIVE VOLUNTEER, AND FAMILY MAN

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2022*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Vietnam Veteran Captain Jack Walter. Jack was born and raised to serve his country, community, and family. He grew up on the East Side of Buffalo and was the 8th of the 9 children of Joseph and Frances Walter. His father was a bricklayer, so he always knew what it meant to work hard in life and never give up. He graduated from St. Matthew's Grammar School in 1960, Canisius High School in 1964, and Gannon University in 1969. While in college he was a member of the Army ROTC Advanced Corps. With this solid foundation, Jack was ready to put his leadership skills to the test. He was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, Field Artillery. He went to Vietnam and served with the 1st Cavalry Division, 1st/21st Artillery. He was an Artillery Forward Observer with an Infantry Company, an Artillery Liaison Officer for an Infantry Battalion, and an Assistant Executive Officer for his Firing Battery. While in Vietnam he served in part of the incursion into Cambodia in May and June of 1970 and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in Cambodia.

Jack used his skills to save the lives of others on the battlefield. He was awarded a Silver Star, the third-highest military decoration for valor in combat. He received the Silver Star for "Gallantry in Action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile enemy force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Walter distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on June 22, 1970 in the Kingdom of Cambodia. During an intense ground battle involving a

well-entrenched enemy force, First Lieutenant Walter, serving as Artillery Liaison, repeatedly came upon heavy enemy fire as he diverted devastating aerial and field artillery on enemy positions. With complete disregard for his own safety, First Lieutenant Walter performed in a courageous and professional manner as he effectively directed artillery while braving the intense hostile fire."

Jack was also awarded a Bronze Star with an oak leaf cluster representing two Bronze Star Awards. He received a Bronze Star Award with Valor, the fourth highest award for military combat bravery during combat actions against an enemy force. The Bronze Star Award with Valor was "for heroism in connection with ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Walter also distinguished himself by valorous actions on February 27, 1970 in Binh Long Province, part of the Republic of Vietnam. When his Platoon encountered small arms and automatic weapons fire from an enemy bunker complex, he immediately called in artillery and air strikes. His pinpoint accuracy forced the aggressors to flee their fortified positions." He was awarded a second Bronze Star award for Meritorious Achievement in ground operations against hostile forces during the period from October 1969 to October 1970 in the Republic of Vietnam. In addition, Jack received an Air Medal with 4 oak leaf clusters representing 5 Air Medals in total, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device, and several other awards for his service in Vietnam. When he returned home from the warzone, he continued his military service by joining the U.S. Army Reserve. He was promoted to Captain in 1973. In 1974, when his military career ended, he spent the next 36 years in the aerospace and defense industry.

When Jack came back from Vietnam, he did whatever he could to use his leadership skills to help his family and his community. He was active in the Amherst Girls Softball League where he spent 11 years as a coach, Vice-President, Treasurer and Registrar and where he received the Amherst Girls Softball League Hall of Fame Award in 1991. He was the coach for Christ the King girls' basketball team for 8 years and then went on to be the assistant head coach for the Nardin Academy Varsity Basketball team for 5 years. He is active in Christ the King Church, having served as a member of the Parish Council for 12 years and president of the Parish Council for 2 years. He was also Chairman of the Finance Committee at Christ the King Church for 5 years.

Jack couldn't have been so successful in his life without the support of his family which includes his wife Janice, his three daughters which include Dr. Jacquelyn Dougherty who is an optometrist at the VA Western New York Healthcare System, Judith Dehn who is an athletic trainer at Excelsior Orthopaedics, Mary Colpoys who is a science teacher at Grand Island High School, and his 10 grandchildren. Jack's friend and fellow Vietnam Veteran Tom Bubar was instrumental in securing this special recognition for Jack. Jack's dedication to his troops in Vietnam, his family, and his community is an example of the selfless sacrifices that we should all make to ensure that our world and community is a better place to live.